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**British Association for Sexual Health and HIV**

*Established 2003 through the merger of MSSVD (est. 1922) and AGUM (est. 1992)*

*Charity number: 306920; VAT reg no: 855195078*

**Royal Society of Medicine,**
1 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0AE
**General Inquiries:** 020 7290 2968
**Membership Inquiries:** 020 7290 3904
**Fax:** 020 7290 2917
**e-mail:** bashh@rsm.ac.uk

[www.bashh.org](http://www.bashh.org)
Board, Trustees and Professional Advisers

ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2012

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<td>President</td>
<td>Dr Janet Wilson</td>
<td>Dr Keith Radcliffe</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Dr Raj Patel</td>
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<td>General Secretary</td>
<td>Dr Elizabeth Carlin</td>
<td>Dr Jan Clarke</td>
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<td>Honorary Treasurer</td>
<td>Prof Jonathan Ross</td>
<td>Dr Raj Patel</td>
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<td>Conference and Communications Secretary</td>
<td>Dr Elizabeth Foley</td>
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<td>Clinical Governance Committee Chair</td>
<td>Dr Celia Skinner</td>
<td>Dr Elizabeth Carlin</td>
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<td>Education Committee Chair</td>
<td>Dr John White</td>
<td>Dr Karen Rogstad</td>
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<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Dr Keith Radcliffe</td>
<td>Dr Imtyaz Ahmed-Jushuf</td>
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<td>Doctors in Training in GUM Representative</td>
<td>Dr Andy Williams</td>
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<td>Health Advisors Representative</td>
<td>Ms Ceri Evans</td>
<td>Ms Kathryn Kain</td>
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<td>Nurses Representative</td>
<td>Mr Colin Roberts</td>
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<td>SAS Representative</td>
<td>Dr John Lee</td>
<td>Dr Helen Mullan</td>
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<td>Lay Trustee (non-elected)</td>
<td>Mr David Roberts-Jones</td>
<td>Mr Michael Bell</td>
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Trustees (August 2011 - December 2011)

Independent Trustee and Chair: Prof Jonathan Ross
Immediate Past President: Dr Imtyaz Ahmed-Jushuf
Vice President: Dr Janet Wilson
Fellow of the Board: Dr Richard Lau
Fellow of the Board: Dr Ann Sullivan
Lay Trustee: Mr Michael Bell

Trustees (January 2012 - July 2012) *

The Board members listed above for the period January 2012 - July 2012 were also the named Trustees for this period. The Chair of the Board and Trustees was Dr Janet Wilson.

Bankers
Bank of Scotland PLC

Solicitors
Stone King LLP
13 Queen Square
Bath
BA1 2HJ

Investment managers
Saracin & Partners LLP
Juxton House
100 St Paul's Churchyard
London
EC4M 8BU

St James's Place Wealth Management Group
St James's Place House
1 Tetbury Road
Cirencester
GL7 1FP

Auditors
Farringdon & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
176 Franciscan Road
London
SW17 8HH
To ensure that BASHH is responsive to the requirements of its membership, we conducted a web-based survey of members to obtain feedback on the activities of the Association, and identify areas that members feel are the most significant. The responses highlighted supporting patient care, influencing NHS Policy, and Education and Training as the most important aspects of our work. This information has helped the Officers and Board to determine which activities should be prioritised.

The introduction of the Health and Social Care Act in England and the planned changes to sexual health commissioning has resulted in the need for active engagement with politicians, civil servants and sexual health partners. BASHH has endeavoured to ensure that sexual health remains a high public health priority, and that the transition to the new commissioning process goes smoothly. There are still a number of unresolved issues associated with the move to Local Authority commissioning and these, along with the significant changes within the NHS, can feel very unsettling. BASHH will continue to emphasise the importance of patient safety and quality of care and will strive to ensure that the current high standards of sexual health services will continue.

One recent major change in sexual health that will be of public benefit is the move to the quadravalent HPV vaccine. BASHH had campaigned to influence this decision and we are delighted that in the future young people in the UK will be protected against genital warts as well as cancer.

Throughout the past year we have established a closer working relationship with the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health in line with the increasing integration of our services. Together, we are developing an integrated, modular, training programme, which will be suitable for all clinicians ranging from novice through to more specialist training.

In addition to their usual activities, the Officers and Board have been preparing for BASHH to become an incorporated charity, effective from 1st August 2012.

It has been a great pleasure and honour to serve as President of BASHH for the past year and I would like to thank all those who have supported me in this role, particularly the Officers. I remain very impressed and proud of the enthusiasm, productivity and quality of the work produced on behalf of BASHH by our Fellows and Members; it is this continuing dedication that will ensure we remain an active and effective organisation.

Dr Janet Wilson
Over the past year BASHH has continued to deliver and develop its activities to provide high quality education and training for both specialists and non-specialists involved in sexual health and HIV care.

We have had a very successful annual meeting in Brighton, involving a wide range of healthcare workers, and which provided an opportunity to update knowledge and skills in this area of medicine. In addition, our regular program of afternoon/evening lectures continues to provide postgraduate education both for our members and others who have an interest in sexual health. The BASHH training courses provide an opportunity to learn more about sexual health and are supplemented by regional postgraduate meetings which cover the whole of the UK.

As the lead professional body for sexual health, BASHH has been involved in developing policy in the delivery of sexual health services and worked with the related professional associations and the UK Departments of Health to ensure that a sexual health perspective has been heard. This is particularly important in England at the moment when considerable reform of the healthcare system is occurring.

Over the course of the year a more modern structure has been established for BASHH in the form of an incorporated charity, and the assets of the Association will be transferred into the new incorporated structure as from 1st August 2012. This new structure provides advantages in relation to contracting of services and clarifying indemnity for the Trustees.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Association’s aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The Association continues to face considerable financial pressures but through increased efforts in fund raising and reductions in expenditure, has maintained a balanced budget. BASHH continues to grow both in its membership and its activities, to support both specialists delivering care and the general public.

Finance report

Visit the BASHH website www.bashh.org for 2011-12 financial statement and treasurer’s report.
Media Group

BASHH’s media campaigns to extend HPV vaccination

This saw success with the switch to using the quadrivalent HPV vaccine in the National Schools Cervical Cancer vaccination programme. The media group is now collaborating with the HIV and HPV SIGs as well as the THT to campaign for extending vaccination first to young men who have sex with men (MSM) attending Sexual Health clinics, and eventually to all boys.

Mr Peter Greenhouse & Dr Colm O’Mahony at Westminster

Other campaigns this year included the launch of the RCP and BASHH’s joint report on Sex and Alcohol, and the “Saving Lives” HIV awareness joint campaign with the Football Association.

Delivering BASHH’s political strategy

The Media Group has met regularly with key contacts in Westminster and at the DH. This included a joint meeting of the Presidents of BASHH and the Faculty of SRH with the Prime Minister’s special policy advisor at No 10 Downing Street to discuss commissioning under the new Health & Social Care Bill. 2011 has also seen the launch of our Public Health Contact programme to facilitate clinician’s local contacts with their Directors of Public Health in the transition to Local Authority commissioning.

Dr Wilson with Dr Wilkinson, President of the Faculty of SRH

As the public face of BASHH

In this role the media group field many contacts with the broadcast and print media. The group made especial efforts to co-ordinate a joint letter to the Times with 22 signatories, including many from other Sexual Health organisations, on the inappropriateness of the legal process in a case of alleged herpes transmission.

The BASHH Public Panel

This provides a valuable resource to develop and hone much of BASHH’s work. The group regularly comments on our guidelines, practice standards and patient resources. 2012 has seen the expansion of this group.

The BASHH Website

This generates over 200,000 visits a year with the guidelines being the most viewed part of the website. The webteam is in the process of developing a new website for BASHH which will be easier to navigate as well as providing more information for members of the public. The webteam maintain the Association’s pages on Facebook, Twitter and Health Unlocked.

Dr Raj Patel, Vice-President, on behalf of Mr Peter Greenhouse, Chair of the Media Group, Dr Jan Clarke, Chair of the Public Panel, and Dr Ade Apoola, Webmaster

Find us on Facebook

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Connect with us on Health Unlocked
http://bashh.healthunlocked.com/
This year the BASHH Spring meeting was held jointly with the American society ASTDA. 560 delegates from the UK, USA, Australia and Europe attended this 3-day meeting in the historic Pavilion in Brighton. The standard of the academic programme was exceptionally high with 21 abstracts selected as oral presentations and 197 selected for poster presentation. A further 6 clinical cases were chosen for oral presentation. Highlights from the meeting included plenaries from Dr Myron Cohen on whether everyone who is HIV positive should be on ART, and Professor Basil Donovan speaking about the Australian experience of the benefit of HPV vaccination as well as a lively debate on whether PreP should be offered on the NHS.

The welcome reception was held in The Brighton Museum and prizes for the best presentations were awarded at the gala dinner held at the Grand Hotel. Dr Nori from Barts and the London Hospital was awarded the prize for the best clinical case, Dr Lisa Haddon from the Royal Cornwall Hospital received the Maggie Godley prize and Miss Lisa Munday from the University of Southampton was awarded the prize for the best presentation by an undergraduate. Dr Michael Rayment from the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital was awarded the prize for the best oral presentation with his colleague Dr Elliott also from the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital being awarded the best runner up prize. The prize for the best poster was awarded to Dr Andrea Ng from Whittall St Clinic Birmingham with Dr K Marsh being awarded the best runner up prize.

Dr Daniel Richardson and his team from Brighton worked fantastically to deliver a first class meeting and we are also very grateful for the support from Industry.

A very successful joint meeting was held with the FSRH in January on ‘Recurring issues in sexual health’ hosted by BASHH at the Royal Society of Medicine. BASHH also delivered symposia at the RCOG and World IUSTI meeting in New Delhi both in November 2011.

There has also been a regular column from BASHH published in Sexually Transmitted Infections.
The past year has once again been a busy one for the Association and BASHH continues to be an active and vibrant organisation.

Membership
There have been applications for membership into all categories and it has been good to see that 30% of applications were from non-medical individuals, reflecting our multidisciplinary ethos. Taking into account resignations and deaths, this has resulted in an overall increase in the total membership number to 1171 by 31 July 2012, compared to 1123 members in 2011. Most members reside in the United Kingdom but 50 reside outside. This year BASHH members have responded to a web-based survey to identify the most important activities of BASHH. This has helped develop a strategic direction for BASHH and has been incorporated into the activities of our Committees, Groups and Regional Branches.

Range of activities
The Association is involved in an extensive array of activities both nationally and regionally. These relate to governance and standards in clinical services; educational activities and special interest groups; media and communication; and increasingly work with patient and public engagement.

BASHH has continued to represent the interests of the specialty in policy discussions nationally across the UK. This has been especially important in England given the on-going widespread reforms to the healthcare system and the planned changes to sexual health commissioning.

BASHH has also continued to deliver and develop its educational activities to provide high quality education and training for multi-disciplinary staff involved in sexual health and HIV care. This supports professional development, helps maintain competency and promotes good clinical practice.

Secretariat services
A variety of support services are in place to support the work of the Association and its administration. Over the past year we have developed a service specification for central BASHH administration, membership and financial support services and have assessed our future requirements. Next year the contract for central support services will be tendered to secure high quality services and obtain value for money.

Elections
Elections for Officer, Board and Branch Chair positions took place in November 2011 and were completed very efficiently via the Electoral Reform Services using a secure online voting website. It is planned to continue using this election format and to extend it to include proxy voting.

Incorporation
The arrangements to enable the incorporation of BASHH have been satisfactorily completed under the guidance of the Association’s solicitors Stone King LLP. This means that from 1 August 2012 BASHH will be a charitable company limited by guarantee. This is a significant move in the modernisation of the organisation. Incorporation means that BASHH will become a separate legal entity and this will provide protection from personal liability for our Trustees, as well as benefits such as increased voting rights for members and simplification of contractual agreements.

Annual report
This is the second year we have produced an annual report in this format. There is also further supporting information on the BASHH website about national, regional and special interest group activities, as well as the Association’s finance reports - www.bashh.org

I acknowledge the help and assistance provided by the Royal Society of Medicine in managing the membership services and providing secretariat support. I would also like to acknowledge the work of my predecessor, Dr Jan Clarke, and to thank all those working on behalf of BASHH over the past year for their support.
The Clinical Governance Committee (CGC) has met four times during the year with excellent attendance and engagement from regional branch chairs who act as a vital communication channel between the Board and local membership. The CGC acts in three ways: disseminating information from the Board and providing feedback, listening to the concerns of regional members and acting appropriately and understanding and promoting the work of the committees which report through the CGC. The CGC invites structured, regional feedback of achievements and as importantly concerns, providing an opportunity for direct dialogue with the Executive Officers of the Board.

In response to the BASHH Strategy the CGC has developed an annual plan linked to the strategic goals of BASHH. The plan is focussed on three key areas: promoting high quality care, providing leadership in all aspects of STI care and improving and developing communication with the local membership. The CGC is developing a simple quality dashboard which can be adapted for use in local services to monitor the quality of care delivered and track improvement. A risk assessment tool for sexual health services is in development and again this will be made available for local adaptation.

The commissioning arrangements for sexual health and HIV are in a period of significant transition, with new local authority commissioning responsibility commencing in April 2013. The CGC has done much to update members on the changes and actively engaged with Munro and Foster in their campaign to support local engagement with Directors of Public Health. A number of clinical services have been put out to competitive tender and the CGC has supported individual services in articulating the need for clinical leadership and the BASHH Standards being embedded in service agreements to maintain the quality of services for patients. In addition, the CGC has used its regional network to provide information on how widespread tendering is.

The CGC continues to support the RCP specialty workforce officer via the BASHH workforce group to obtain improved workforce intelligence and now routinely collates information on workforce change at consultant level. In addition, medical revalidation goes live in 2012 and the CGC has worked with the BASHH Revalidation lead to update members on the requirements for revalidation and explain how BASHH supports revalidation.

The BASHH Committees reporting to the CGC (namely the Clinical Effectiveness Group, the National Audit Group, the BASHH Information Group, the British Cooperative Clinical Group, the Clinical Standards Unit and the Mentoring Group) all continue to be very productive.

I would like to thank Branch Chairs, Group Chairs, and all those who have worked on the CGC sub-groups or on specific pieces of work for the CGC. I would also particularly like to thank Alan Tang for his hard work and patience as Secretary to the CGC.

**Dr Celia Skinner**
Chair, Clinical Governance Committee
The Education Committee (EC) has a broad remit but with particular focus on one of BASHH’s key objectives: to promote, encourage and improve the study and practice of the art and science of diagnosing and treating STIs, HIV and other sexual health problems.

The EC and the groups under its banner include the specialist interest groups (SIGs), groups representing different professionals working in sexual health or those delivering training and courses. Over the past year the EC has continued to address key issues in sexual health education, consolidating its active and regular achievements as well as expanding into new educational activities.

The EC oversees both educational and training events provided to a wide audience of healthcare professionals.

Specialist interest groups (SIGs)
The BASHH SIGs accomplish much of the work on behalf of the EC. In the last year the SIGs have conducted regular courses to their usual high standards, including the microscopy course (x 2), genital dermatology course, Surgical Techniques in GUM course, Dip HIV/GUM revision courses, 40 x Regional STIF courses, and the STI & HIV Course (x 2). In addition, the Adolescent SIG, HIV SIG, Sexual Dysfunction SIG, Specialty and Associate Specialist (SAS) Doctors SIG and Herpes SIG all held successful stand alone focus days/meetings or symposia in 2011-12.

In addition to providing education and training opportunities the BASHH SIGs also contribute by generating publications and research, reviewing/responding to documents and policies on behalf of SIGs/BASHH, and developing recommendations and guidelines in collaboration with other BASHH groups, committees and external organisations. Once again this year the SIGs have conducted numerous important activities in this regard, and these achievements are detailed in their individual reports, which are available on the BASHH website www.bashh.org

In 2012 a new special interest group, the men who have sex with men (MSM) SIG, was approved and set up to focus on sexual health issues for MSM. Dr David Asboe is the inaugural chair. They have already contributed to guidelines including NICE hepatitis B and C testing guidelines, and are working with the HPV SIG and the Media Group on producing evidence for the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation on the issue of HPV vaccination for MSM up to and including the age of 26.

Ordinary General Meetings
BASHH members look to the EC to provide a programme of four OGMs annually, including addresses from BASHH’s Honorary Life Fellows and Professorial Lectures. Five different SIGs put together the meetings in 2011-12. These were well-attended and offered diverse, interesting and valuable educational sessions to its members from whom feedback has been excellent. To try to reach as many members as possible, the EC has developed strategies to allow remote members access to OGM material more easily.

Other Meetings
The EC oversees the staging of the Annual Spring Meeting and the 2012 Brighton meeting has been one of the most successful ever, also combining a successful ‘Doctors in Training’ meeting held the day before the conference. The 2012 BASHH/FSRH joint meeting was once again very successful and has been agreed as an annual event. The SAS SIG also held their annual conference in September 2011 with once again a high turnout and excellent feedback. The Sexual Dysfunction SIG’s ‘ABC of sexual dysfunction’ meeting held at the RSM attracted 80 delegates and is back by popular demand for 2013.
The HIV Masterclass programme held annually in February was well attended and reviewed in its new Manchester venue, and seems destined to remain there as an important part of the BASHH EC calendar. The annual HIV Focus meeting in September at the RSM was once again well received. The rollout of ‘GUM Taster Days’ designed to attract young doctors into the specialty has been successful and will now be done twice yearly in London and Birmingham.

**STI Foundation**
In addition to providing 40 regional STIF courses this year, the STI Foundation has continued to expand its educational portfolio with consolidation of its popular Train the Trainer days and the successful launch of STIF competency Level 1. An exciting development has been the establishment of university credits by the University of Greenwich, allowing for STIF Intermediate to be a nationally recognised qualification. Other Universities such as Bedford, Northumbria and Manchester continue to show interest in STIF materials.

**STI & HIV Course**
The STI & HIV Course remains popular and well-evaluated. We continue to re-evaluate and improve the course content and this year incorporated e-Learning for Health material into our Public Health day. The one day Dip GUM and Dip HIV (co-organised with BHIVA) revision courses continued to be successful. In 2013 further review of the course content and structure is planned to help maximise its quality and utility for trainees.

**Prizes**
The **Cathy Harman Award for Innovation** was won by Dr Olivia Hum based in Lewes, East Sussex for her programme ‘The Circle Room’, improving access of young people to sexual health services in a rural area.

The EC also awarded the BASHH Undergraduate Clinical Prize to Katie Love (Lancaster Medical School) for her paper ‘Protocol for oropharyngeal screening in Genito-Urinary Medicine’ and the BASHH Undergraduate Research Prize to Jessamine Walter (University of Glasgow) for her ‘Test only clinic pilot report, Sandyford Initiative, Glasgow’.

**BASHH HPA Fellowships**
The successful 2012 candidates for Honorary Joint Training Fellowships for Physicians Taking Higher Specialist Training in Genitourinary Medicine are Dr Jake Bayley, Dr Emma Hathorn, Dr Sophie Herbert, Dr Cara Mullooly, Dr Helen Parker and Dr Martina Toby.

**Other achievements**
The Undergraduate Education project has been signed off by the EC and is now available online for students.

**The Future**
The Education Strategy discussed at Board included the issue of improving the marketing and advertising of BASHH education events and this will be taken forward by the EC in 2013.

Health advisor competencies continue to be reviewed by the EC with a possibility of combining them with STIF Level 1 in the future.

Provision has been made for the BASHH website to undergo redesign and further development. This should help enable us to ensure that new training packages will utilise web technology wherever possible.

Plans are underway to choose a city to host the 2015 stand alone BASHH Spring Meeting and several places have expressed a willingness to host this already.

As the new Chair of the EC I am grateful to the previous Chair Karen Rostad and the other members of the committee for their ongoing hard work in this important capacity and look forward to continuing to work together with the members of BASHH to help achieve its objectives.

**Dr John White**
Chair, Education Committee